

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5600

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4136

FOR: CU/ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CS

SUBJECT: FOURTEENTH SEMINAR ON HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE AMERICAS

REF: A-8144, SEPTEMBER 26

1. POST WISHES TO NOMINATE DR. ORLANDO BRAVO TREJOS, DIRECTOR OF THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, AS PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE. DR. BRAVO IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, A MEMBER OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL OF THE UCR SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, AND IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH UCR RECTOR EUGENIO RODRIGUEZ ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE COSTA RICAN PORTION OF THE SEMINAR.

2. BIODATA (NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION): ORLANDO BRAVO TREJOS,
BORN IN HEREDIA, COSTA RICA, JANUARY 11, 1935, COSTA RICAN, MARRIED, FOUR CHILDREN; GRADUATE UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, PH.D. UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS; ADDRESS IS DEPARTAMENTO OF CHEMISTRY UCR; PRESENT POSITION: DIRECTOR DEPT. OF CHEMISTRY UCR; OTHER POSITIONS: UCR PROFESSOR, SUB-DIRECTOR DEPT OF CHEMISTRY, VISITING PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMPINAS, BRASIL, UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA AND UNIVERSITY OF ICAITI, GUATEMALA; ASSOCIATIONS: PHI LAMBDA UPSILON HONORARY CHEMISTRY SOCIETY, COSTA RICAN CHEMISTRY ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE; SEVERAL PUBLICATIONS IN CHEMISTRY MAGAZINES; KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH GOOD;
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TRAVEL ABROAD: USA, BRAZIL, PANAMA, GUATEMALA; PURPOSE

OF VISIT: ATTEND THE KANSAS SEMINAR ON HIGHER EDUCATION.

3. AS AN ALTERNATE CANDIDATE THE POST SUGGESTS FRANCISCO ALFARO PANIAGUA, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY IN THE DEPT OF GENERAL STUDIES OF THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, WHO IS ALSO ASSISTING THE RECTOR WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SEMINAR AND TAKES AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF UNIVERSITY FACULTY.

4. BIODATA (NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION): FRANCISCO ALFARO PANIAGUA, BORN IN CARTAGO, COSTA RICA, FEBRUARY 29, 1939; COSTA RICAN; MARRIED; B.A. IN HISTORY UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA; ADDRESS: RECTORIA, UCR; PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, UCR AND ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR; OTHER POSITIONS: PROFESSOR OF HISTORY UCR AND SEVERAL HIGH SCHOOLS; ASSOCIATIONS: COSTA RICAN HISTORIANS' ASSOCIATION, AND APSE (BOTH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS); KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH POOR; TRAVEL ABROAD: CENTRAL AMERICA AND CHILE; PURPOSE OF VISIT: ATTEND THE KANSAS SEMINAR ON HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE AMERICAS.

5. INFORMATION ON A SECOND ALTERNATE WILL BE SENT WITHIN A FEW DAYS. THE POST HAD HOPED TO NOMINATE A SECOND PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE, FROM THE NEW NATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN HEREDIA, BUT FROM CONSULTATION WITH THE UN ADMINISTRATION IT IS CLEAR THAT ALTHOUGH DEEPLY INTERESTED IN THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S SEMINAR, THEY ARE NOT IN A POSITION JUST NOW TO PROPOSE A SUITABLE CANDIDATE.

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